

What is claimed is:

1. A method for treating an upper airway condition of a patient, said method comprising:
 - selecting a particulate material selected for limited migration within tissue and for encouraging a fibrotic response of tissue to said material;
 - injecting a bolus of said particulate material into said tissue area to alter said dynamic response.
2. A method according to claim 1 wherein said particulate material is carried in a fluid carrier.
3. A method according to claim 1 wherein said particulate material has a multi-modal particle size distribution.
4. A method according to claim 1 wherein said tissue area is a soft palate of said patient.
5. A method according to claim 1 wherein said tissue area is a nasal mucosal surface of said patient.
6. A method according to claim 1 wherein said nasal mucosal surface is a nasal concha of said patient.
7. A method according to claim 1 wherein said tissue area is a pharyngeal wall of said patient.
8. A method according to claim 1 wherein said tissue area is an epiglottis of said patient.

9. A method according to claim 1 wherein said upper airway condition is snoring.
10. A method according to claim 1 wherein said upper airway condition is sleep apnea.
11. An apparatus for treating snoring of a patient suffering from snoring attributable, at least in part, to a snoring sound generating oscillation of a soft tissue area of said patient in response to airflow past said soft tissue area and where said soft tissue area has a characteristic dynamic response to said airflow prior to treatment, said apparatus comprising:
 - an implant of biocompatible material sized to be embedded within said soft tissue area;
 - said implant selected to have a stiffness to stiffen said soft tissue area after implantation to alter said dynamic response without substantially impairing a function of said soft tissue area;
 - said implant including a bolus of particulate matter deposited into said soft tissue area with said particulate matter selected induce a fibrotic response to stiffen said soft tissue area.